

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR:RCEWING:LJP
APPROVED BY EUR:JGLOWENSTEIN
S/S:DMACK
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
EUR ONLY

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P 062331Z OCT 75
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 238185

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: EUR DEVELOPMENTS, OCTOBER 6

EYES ONLY
FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN FROM LOWENSTEIN

1. SOVIET GRAIN ESTIMATES: CIA HAS REDUCED ITS ESTIMATE OF THE SOVIET 1975 GRAIN CROP FROM 170 MILLION TONS TO A RANGE OF 155-165 MILLION TONS. THEY CONCLUDE THAT THERE IS NO WAY THE SOVIETS CAN MAKE UP FOR THE SHORTFALL BY IMPORTS AND NOTE THAT THERE IS ALREADY EVIDENCE OF DISTRESS SLAUGHTERING OF CATTLE. USDA ESTIMATE STILL STANDS AT 175 MILLION TONS BUT IS LIKELY TO BE REDUCED SOON. SHORTFALL WILL HAVE EFFECT ON INDUSTRIAL GROWTH RATES AS WELL AS ON LIVING STANDARDS. THE TEN MILLION TON RANGE IN ESTIMATES IS DUE TO FACT THAT SIZEABLE AMOUNTS OF GRAIN ARE NOT BEING HARVESTED AT ALL BUT USED TO GRAZE CATTLE. AMOUNT OF SUCH NON-HARVESTING IS DIFFICULT TO PREDICT PRECISELY.

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2. CONCORDE: SECRETARY MET WITH COLEMAN AND BARNUM OF DOT TO REVIEW CONCORDE ENTRY QUESTION. HE INDICATED THAT DENIAL OF ENTRY WOULD CREATE A MESS IN OUR RELATIONS WITH UK AND FRANCE AND THEN SIGNED A LETTER TO COLEMAN, DRAFTED IN EUR AND CLEARED WITH C AND EB, INDICATING THE POLITICAL

IMPACT OF ANY REJECTION OF BRITISH AND FRENCH AIRLINE APPLICATIONS, AND ASKING COLEMAN TO TAKE THIS INTO ACCOUNT IN HIS DECISION. COLEMAN DID NOT SAY EXACTLY WHAT HE INTENDED TO DO BUT RAISED THE QUESTION OF POSSIBLE LEGISLATIVE BAN ON CONCORDE IN EVENT HIS DECISION IS FAVORABLE, OR PARTLY FAVORABLE WITH LIMITATIONS ON FREQUENCY. THIS WOULD CONFRONT THE PRESIDENT WITH THE QUESTION OF VETOING POSSIBLE LEGISLATION AGAINST CONCORDE ENTRY. THE SECRETARY UNDERTOOK TO REVIEW THIS SUBJECT WITH THE PRESIDENT AND ADVISE COLEMAN FURTHER.

3. PORTUGAL: SECRETARY CONCURRED ON SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE PACKAGE THAT GOES NOW TO OMB (VIA NSC) FOR PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL. WE HOPE TO EXPEDITE SO THAT LEVEL OF REFUGEE AID CAN BE ANNOUNCED WHEN MELO ANTUNES SEES SECRETARY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10. SECRETARY CONFIRMED WE MUST HAVE HARD ASSURANCES FROM GOP THAT PORTUGUESE ARMS WILL NOT RPT NOT REACH MPLA BEFORE THERE IS INCREASE IN U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO AIRLIFT. WE ARE SENDING ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CARLUCCI. IN PORTUGAL, POLITICAL TENSIONS DEEPENED THIS PAST WEEK-END AS THE GOVERNMENT STRUGGLED TO COME TO GRIPS WITH WIDESPREAD INDISCIPLINE IN THE ARMED FORCES. AN UNEASY CALM PREVAILED IN LISBON TODAY IN THE AFTERMATH OF STATEMENTS BY COSTA GOMES AND PINHEIRO AZEVEDO TO THE EFFECT THAT ARMED FORCES UNITY AND DISCIPLINE WAS NOW PRACTICALLY NON-EXISTENT.

4. SPAIN: SUPPLEMENTARY AGREEMENTS ON INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, NON-MILITARY COOPERATION, AND SPANISH-US MILITARY PLANNING STAFF ARE BEING DRAFTED TO FILL OUT AGREEMENT FRAMEWORK WORKED OUT BETWEEN SECRETARY AND CORTINA OVER PAST TWO WEEKS. TARGET IS DELIVERY OF FULL DRAFTS TO SPANISH IN MADRID BY MIDDLE OF NEXT WEEK; FINAL AGREED TEXTS BY MID-NOVEMBER. THUS FAR U.S. REACTIONS TO CONFIDENTIAL

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TERRORIST/HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES IN SPAIN ARE MIXED: EVEN LIBERALS AGREE PERSONS CONVICTED OF MURDERING POLICEMEN DESERVE SEVERE PUNISHMENT, BUT SOME WORRY THAT GOS IS PLAYING INTO HANDS OF EXTREMISTS BENT ON POLARIZING SPANISH POLITICAL SITUATION TO MAKE IT MORE BRITTLE; OTHERS VOICE MISGIVINGS ABOUT DUE PROCESS IN TRIALS AND CHARGES OF TORTURE.

5. JAVITS TRAVEL PLANS: SENATOR JAVITS CALLED TO OFFER TO GO TO ANKARA AND ATHENS DURING NEXT WEEK'S CONGRESSIONAL RECESS IF SUCH A TRIP WOULD BE USEFUL. AFTER CHECKING EMBASSIES ATHENS AND ANKARA, I ADVISED LAKELAND THAT OUR PRELIMINARY REACTION WAS THAT TIMING WAS NOT PARTICULARLY GOOD.

6. DISCUSSION AT NAC MINISTERIAL: WE HAVE FORWARDED TO SONNENFELDT A MEMO OUTLINING OUR PROPOSALS FOR INTRODUCING THE SUBJECT OF COMMUNISM IN THE WEST FOR DISCUSSION AT THE DECEMBER NAC MINISTERIAL. THE MEMO ASKED FOR HIS COMMENTS AND INDICATED THAT, IF HE AGREES THIS SHOULD BE THE CENTRAL SUBJECT FOR THE RESTRICTED NAC, WE WILL PREPARE THE NECESSARY INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE SECRETARY.

7. CSCE IMPLEMENTATION: THE NSC RECOMMENDATION, WHICH WE SUPPORTED, THAT THE UNDERSECRETARIES COMMITTEE BE GIVEN RESPONSIBILITY FOR MONITORING CSCE IMPLEMENTATION WAS APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY OCTOBER 3.

8. PIKE COMMITTEE: WITH REGARD BOYATT TESTIMONY AND PROVISION OF MEMO, MONDAY WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL CONCLUDES: "WE FIND THE DEPARTMENT'S POSITION PERSUASIVE. POLICY-LEVEL OFFICERS....MUST BE ACCOUNTABLE TO CONGRESS FOR THE OPTIONS THEY DISCARD AS WELL AS FOR THE OPTIONS THEY CHOOSE. BUT THE FIRST OBLIGATION OF MORE JUNIOR OFFICERS IS TO PROVIDE THEIR SUPERIORS WITH THEIR BEST JUDGMENT, AND THIS CAN BEST BE DONE ON THE BASIS OF INTERIOR CONFIDENTIALITY." KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE238185
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RCEWING:LJP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750347-0005
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751080/aaaactxi.tel
Line Count: 145
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS, EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS, EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <09 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EUR DEVELOPMENTS, OCTOBER 6 EYES ONLY
TAGS: PFOR, XG
To: WARSAW
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006